



Docket No.: 2038-230

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	:	EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
N. SHIMOE et al.	:	:	Response under 37 CFR 1.116
	:		
Serial No. 09/458,077	:		Group Art Unit: 3761
	:		
Filed: December 10, 1999	:		Examiner: M. Kidwell
	:		

17/5/03
4-8-3

For: DISPOSABLE BODY FLUID ABSORBENT ARTICLE HAVING LONGITUDINAL
SIDE GROOVE

AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 116

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

RECEIVED
APR 17 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

This paper is submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed January 15, 2003, which was made Final. Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments **as to form** be entered to place this application in condition for allowance.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 21 as follows:

21. (Twice Amended) The article of claim 6, wherein at least one of the side regions of said core has a thickness gradually decreasing from the respective one of the indented regions toward the respective one of the transversely opposite sides of said core.